

REMARKS

A Notice of Allowance for this Application was mailed on May 7, 2003. Applicants subsequently filed a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) on May 16, 2003. The present amendment is being filed following the RCE, but before the mailing of any subsequent office action.

Claims 1 – 19 are pending in the application. The amendment presented above makes clear that the outer layer of the claimed material is a release layer for the cold-seal coating. Support for the amendment can be found, for example, at page 4, lines 10-13 and page 5, lines 13-16 of the application text as filed. In addition, the amendment removes the limitation “synthetic” with regard to the cold-seal cohesive coating in claims 1 and 10. The limitation relating to “fixed slip agents” has also been removed from claim 10.

The prior art of record (including that found in the references identified in the supplemental IDS submitted herewith) does not suggest or disclose a packaging material with a cold-seal cohesive on an inner side of a substrate and an electron beam cured release layer on an outer side of the substrate. It is believed that the pending claims are patentable. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that the claim amendments be considered and a new Notice of Allowance issued.

If direct communication will expedite the renewed allowance of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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